15

25

## What is claimed is:

- 1. A magnetic thin film head comprising:
- a write head element; and
- 5 a read head element;

wherein a ferromagnetic film having a soft magnetic characteristic and a magnetic shield function is formed of NiFe permalloy material by electroplating in the vicinity of a sensor film arranged as said read head element,

wherein Ni in composition of a formed layer is 80.8 wt% to 82.0 wt%.

- 2. A magnetic thin film head according to claim 1, in which said Ni is composed of an initially formed layer having a thickness of 1.0  $\mu$  m is 80.8 to 82.0 wt%, and of an upper layer on said initially formed layer 1.0  $\mu$  m thick is 81.0 to 81.2 wt%.
- 20 3 A magnetic thin film head comprising:
  - a write head element; and
  - a read head element;

wherein a ferromagnetic film having a soft magnetic characteristic and a magnetic shield function is formed of NiFe permalloy material by electroplating in the vicinity of a sensor film arranged as said read head element,

wherein a magnetostriction constant  $\lambda$ 

15

20

representing a magnetic characteristic of said ferromagnetic film is -2.0 to -7.0 x  $10^{-7}$  in an initially formed layer having a thickness of 1.0  $\mu$  m, and

5 wherein said magnetostriction constant  $\lambda$  is -3.0 to -4.0 x  $10^{-7}$  in an upper layer on said initially formed layer 1.0  $\mu$  m thick.

A magnetic thin film head comprising: a write head element; and

a read head element;

wherein a ferromagnetic film having a soft magnetic characteristic and a magnetic shield function is formed of NiFe permalloy material by electroplating in the vicinity of a sensor film arranged as said read head element,

wherein a film thickness exceeding 1.0  $\mu$  m in said ferromagnetic film formed of NiFe permalloy material has an Ni content accuracy of  $\pm 0.1$  wt%, and wherein a film thickness of 1.0  $\mu$  m or less in

said ferromagnetic film formed of NiFe permalloy material has an Ni content accuracy of  $\pm 0.3$  wt%.

- 5. A method of fabricating a magnetic thin25 film comprising the step of:
  - (a) forming a write head element;
  - (b) forming a read head element;
    wherein a ferromagnetic film having a soft

15

20

25

magnetic characteristic and a magnetic shield function is formed of NiFe permalloy material by electroplating in the vicinity of a sensor film arranged as said read head element,

wherein Ni in composition of an initially formed layer having a thickness of 1.0  $\mu$  m is 80.8 to 82.0 wt%, and

wherein Ni in composition of an upper layer on said initially formed layer 1.0  $\mu$  m thick is 81.0 to 81.2 wt%,

(c) timewise regulating a current density of permalloy electroplating under control of a personal computer;

wherein a plurality of time periods and a plurality of current values are preset for film formation.

- 6. A method of fabricating a magnetic thin film comprising the step of:
  - (a) forming a write head element; and
  - (b) forming a read head element;

wherein a ferromagnetic film having a soft magnetic characteristic and a magnetic shield function is formed of NiFe permalloy material by electroplating in the vicinity of a sensor film arranged as said read head element,

wherein a magnetostriction constant  $\lambda$  representing a magnetic characteristic of said

20

25

ferromagnetic film is -2.0 to -7.0 x  $10^{-7}$  in an initially formed layer having a thickness of 1.0  $\mu$  m, and

wherein said magnetostriction constant  $\lambda$  is -3.0 to -4.0 x 10<sup>-7</sup> in an upper layer on said initially formed layer 1.0  $\mu$  m thick,

- (c) timewise regulating a current density of permalloy electroplating under control of a personal computer;
- 10 wherein a plurality of time periods and a plurality of current values are preset for film formation.
  - 7. A method of fabricating a magnetic thin film comprising the step of:
    - (a) forming a write head element; and
    - (b) forming a read head element;

wherein a ferromagnetic film having a soft magnetic characteristic and a magnetic shield function is formed of NiFe permalloy material by electroplating in the vicinity of a sensor film arranged as said read head element,

wherein a film thickness exceeding 1.0  $\mu$  m in said ferromagnetic film formed of NiFe permalloy material has an Ni content accuracy of  $\pm 0.1$  wt%, and

wherein a film thickness of 1.0  $\mu$  m or less in said ferromagnetic film formed of NiFe permalloy material has an Ni content accuracy of  $\pm 0.3$  wt%,

15

(c) timewise regulating a current density of permalloy electroplating under control of a personal computer;

wherein a plurality of time periods and a plurality of current values are preset for film formation.

8 A magnetic disk apparatus having a magnetic thin film head comprising:

a write head element; and

a read head element;

wherein a ferromagnetic film having a soft magnetic characteristic and a magnetic shield function is formed of NiFe permalloy material by electroplating in the vicinity of a sensor film arranged as said read head element,

wherein Ni in composition of an initially formed layer having a thickness of 1.0  $\mu$  m is 80.8 to 82.0 wt%, and

wherein Ni in composition of an upper layer on said initially formed layer 1.0  $\mu$  m thick is 81.0 to 81.2 wt%.

9 A magnetic disk apparatus having a 25 magnetic thin film head comprising:

a write head element; and

a read head element;

wherein a ferromagnetic film having a soft

25

magnetic characteristic and a magnetic shield function is formed of NiFe permalloy material by electroplating in the vicinity of a sensor film arranged as said read head element,

wherein a magnetostriction constant  $\lambda$  representing a magnetic characteristic of said ferromagnetic film is -2.0 to -7.0 x  $10^{-7}$  in an initially formed layer having a thickness of 1.0  $\mu$  m, and

wherein said magnetostriction constant  $\lambda$  is -3.0 to -4.0 x  $10^{-7}$  in an upper layer on said initially formed layer 1.0  $\mu$  m thick.

10 A magnetic disk apparatus having a magnetic thin film head comprising:

A magnetic thin film head comprising:

- a write head element; and
- a read head element;

wherein a ferromagnetic film having a soft

20 magnetic characteristic and a magnetic shield function
is formed of NiFe permalloy material by electroplating
in the vicinity of a sensor film arranged as said read
head element,

wherein a film thickness exceeding 1.0  $\mu$  m in said ferromagnetic film formed of NiFe permalloy material has an Ni content accuracy of  $\pm 0.1$  wt%, and

wherein a film thickness of 1.0  $\mu$  m or less in said ferromagnetic film formed of NiFe permalloy

material has an Ni content accuracy of  $\pm 0.3$  wt%.